

The Franciscan



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Volume 17, Issue 12
Knights of Columbus

June 1, 2025
Council 14504

Grand Knight's Letter by GK Sean Gammon



Hello Brother Knights!

Hello All! Just wanted to relay some good news this month! To start off, we made all requirements for Star Council minus two new members! We have to get two new members by the end of the month in! Our degree team are available to be flexible to get any good practicing Catholic man into our council on a CUF! And the first year is free for all new e-members! All we have to do is ASK! ASK! ASK!

On other good news, Deo Eustace, Danny Sprouse, John Hoffman, Michael Friel, and Mike Nowak went to State Convention Memorial Day Weekend! Our council won 5 awards, including the Best Faith Award for the State of Ohio! This is for our pilgrimage! And we have another pilgrimage set for October 2026 to Italy. Keep a look out for info on it.

Next month business meeting will be replaced by our annual Council Picnic in Friendship Hall on June 10th at 7pm where we will install our 2025-2026 officers! Please invite your family to this event!

Speaking of officers, we will be needing officers to replace a few of us stepping down for family and work for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Please consider reaching out to me or any of the officers if you are interested in becoming an officer!

Next month, the parish family is also asking for volunteers for the Americana Festival parking on July 4th. We are also getting asked for volunteers from our council to help with the Parish picnic in August. Please consider helping with both.

Lastly, our finances are in a good spot. We have officially transferred all of our accounts from Fifth Third Wright Patt Credit Union. We have gained more interest in the last few months than we got from Fifth Third in fifteen years! Also, thank you to everyone that helped with the mulch sale. We sold all of mulch and we made over two thousand dollars. This sale plus our portion of dues are the only two ways of funding our General Fund. Everything else we collect is generally ear-marked (i.e. charity). Also, thank you for every one who bought Cash Bonanza tickets! It's the best fundraiser for our charity accounts as well as the State Councils' Charity accounts!

Please reach out if you have any questions!

Vivat Jesus!

Sean Gammon, Grand Knight
Council 14504—St Francis of Assisi

Inside this issue:

Grand Knight's Letter /	1
April Council Meeting Minutes	2-4
Council Officers / Program Directors	5

Council 14504 Minutes for May 13th, 2025

Call to Order:

The Meeting was held in person and called to order by Grand Knight (GK) Gammons at 7:30 PM after which the GK led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer.

Approval of minutes:

Council meeting minutes from April, previously e-mailed to members by Financial Secretary Mike Nowak were approved after voting on a motion proposed by John Hoffman.

Grand Knight's Report:

GK Gammons reported on tonight's elections for Council officers for FY 2025-26 will be held during the new business portion of the meeting.

The Council is two (2) new members away from our recruiting goal, he urged all members to ask another man of the Parish to consider joining.

Our Council will be participating with the Incarnation Council to provide food at the upcoming Father-Son cookout to be held after Mass on May 31 at St. Francis.

At the June Council meeting, we will be having a cookout in lieu of a regular business meeting, at which time new officers will be installed.

Mulch sales figures are not complete, but overall sales were good. Thanks to all who helped, especially Mike Manzo and Mike Nowak

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Joe Schmidt reported deposits totaling \$1,139.18, expenses of \$63.83. Total account balances reported for checking \$8415.92, savings \$15,191.89 for a grand total of \$23,607.81. Schmidt also noted that all Council monies have been transferred to Wright-Patt Credit Union, and he noted that the Council had made \$34.45 in interest, which was by far more than made during our time with Fifth Third Bank.

Membership Report:

Michael Friel reiterated the need to recruit new members to join the Council.

John Hoffman reported this is the 125th anniversary of the 4th Degree of the Knights and that a 4th Degree ceremony will be held July 26th, he urged all 3rd Degree members to consider joining the Assembly.

Mike Manzo reports that the fish fry usually held in the fall is uncertain at this time, consideration will be needed to facilitate the preparation in agreement with the Parish. The storage area in the picnic shelter is in need of repair and cleaning out, this will be addressed soon.

The date of the future spaghetti dinner is not known at this time; the church Calander will be checked to determine an appropriate open date.

All members who assisted with the mulch sale were thanked for their help.

John Hoffman reports evangelization efforts will be commencing with the assistance of Sean

Cont'd on Next Page

Council 14504 Minutes for May 13th, 2025 (cont)

McManamy leading all men of the parish in sessions. This will also assist McManamy with his diac-nate studies.

McManamy noted his first session would be in Friendship Hall on May 22 at 7 PM, the intent is to have sessions monthly, and he stressed these sessions are open to all men, not just Council members.

Hoffman also spoke of parish efforts in faith education and encouraged members to consider helping with youth classes and groups such as the Life Teen program, which has been successful.

Mike Tortorici provided an update on the 2026 pilgrimage planning.

Financial Secretary Report:

Secretary Nowak reported approximately \$2,300 in proceeds for the Council from Cash Bonanza ticket sales.

District Deputy Report:

Deputy John Brown provided updates on district events and Council progress towards goals.

Unfinished Business:

Recorder Jim Stephenson reported there was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Deputy John Brown presented the slate of officers to be voted on, Cal Frank made a point of order noting the positions of financial secretary and lecturer are appointed by GK and not an elected position. The one open position is for the recorder position. Joe Schmidt made a nomination for Jeremy McCoy for this position, the motion was passed, and McCoy was added to the slate. The slate of officers was voted for and approved by Council as follows:

Grand Knight: Sean Gammons	Deputy Grand Knight: Deogratias Eustace
Treasurer: Joe Schmidt	Chancellor: Mike Tortorici
Advocate: Michael Friel	One year trustee: Danny Sprouse
Two-year trustee: Steve Berns	Three-year trustee: John Hoffman
Recorder: Jeremy McCoy	Chaplain: Rev. Brian Phelps
Warden: Mike Manzo	Outside Guard: Jeff Travers
Inside Guard: Dan Pfeiffer	

John Hoffman presented information on the Father-Son cookout and made a motion for the Council to provide no more than \$250 towards food and beverages, the motion was seconded and was approved by vote of Council.

Cont'd on Next Page

Council 14504 Minutes for May 13th, 2025 (cont)

Michael Friel reported the Council highway cleanup service project would take place on May 31st beginning at 9 AM. All interested members should meet at the shed in the parking lot for equipment.

GK Gammons noted to members that monthly officer's meetings are open to any member who wishes to attend. These are held the week before the monthly business meeting of the Council.

Good of the Order:

Family of the Month: The family of Phil Yarborough was recognized for their help with the mulch sale.

Knight of the Month: Tim Obringer

50/50 raffle: John Gallagher claimed the \$15.00 prize.

Attendance Raffle: Paul Steiner won the \$45.00 prize.

Members presented prayer intentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 by GK Gammons after leading the Council in a prayer for the canonization of the BL. Father Michael McGivney.

Submitted by Recorder Jim Stephenson

Grand Knight

 Sean Gammon 317-294-9294
gammonnew@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

 Mike Nowak 937-310-1031
mjcsnowak@yahoo.com

Treasurer

 Joe Schmidt 937-422-1072
Joseph.v.schmidt@outlook.com

Chancellor

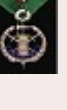
 Mike Tortorici 937-848-8450
mikeptort@aol.com

Advocate

 Michael Freil 937-750-4780
mcfreil2019@gmail.com

Trustees

 1-Yr Danny Sprouse 937-291-2007
dgsprouse@gmail.com

 2-Yr Steve Berns 937-293-2463
s.berns@att.net

3-Yr John Hoffman 937-529-8723

District Deputy

 John Brown 937-723-0531
jabrown147@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight

 Deogratias Eustace 937-435-2622
deoeustace@hotmail.com

Recorder

 Jim Stephenson 937-681-8367
jameswstephenson40@gmail.com

Lecturer

 Don Hirst 937-475-0241
d.hirst@sbcglobal.net

Chaplain

 Rev Brian Phelps

Warden

 Mike Manzo 937-848-2679
mike_manzo@hotmail.com

Outside Guards

 Jeff Travers 317-513-9947
jeffrey.travers@wright.edu

Inside Guard

 Dan Pfeiffer dhp2go@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Mike Nowak 937-310-1031

Program Directors

Program John Hoffman	Faith Danny Sprouse	Vocations: Danny Sprouse
Community Steve Berns	Life Tom Brockman	Health Service Mike Tortorici
Public Rel Mike Nowak	Family Mike Nowak	Membership: Michael Freil
Recruitment Committee 1 John Hoffman	Recruitment Committee 2 Sean Gammon	
Recruitment Committee 3 Steve Berns	Retention: Michael Freil	